

Discussion Board 2.1 – NPM Packages

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This week we look at npm packages and the sheer quantity of them. Find three favorite or interesting packages and describe them. I am using the search bar at npmjs.com.

During a search of packages, I looked for 'random' since it is a popular package. Just about every game uses a random package of some sort. Random can also be used in testing. There are 11,158 packages. The package 'random' is appealing because it is easy to install and use, allowing for random number generation for the masses.

I also looked up 'graph' because graphs are widely used in data science. And because graphs are fun! Here, there are 21,511 packages found. The package 'highcharts' is a JavaScript charting framework. Graphing is widely used in a business environment and with that environment becoming dependent on web apps, then having access to graphing tools in a JavaScript environment becomes very useful.

Lastly, I searched for 'pop-up window' with the popularity radio button selected and found an interesting package. I am surprised there are only 24 packages here. It is called 'disable-body-scroll'. What this package does is "disable the scrolling of the content of the body when the content of the pop-up window is scrolled" (lucy2, 2022). I am sure this is a great design tool. I noticed most of the packages supported Angular. This package supports Vue.

Knowing that there are all of these packages to choose from, for apparently any topic, and available for different front-end environments, shows the power of npm. I also enjoy that it is open-source. The code base is there. Now we can change it to fit what we are trying to accomplish, if we have to. Because it's open-source. Yay, open-source!

References

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